Hebrews 7 - Jesus our Holy Priest forever

Sunday 30 April 2017
Speaker – Pastor Marshall Muller
Let's read Hebrews 7
But strong meat belongs to them that are of full age...

—Hebrews 5:14
Mysterious Melchizedek
Hebrews 7:1-19
WHO WAS MELCHIZEDEK?
What do we know about Melchizedek?
The Priesthood of Melchizedek

- **Priest-King of Salem (= peace)**
- **No record of his birth/death/life**
- **Eternal?**
- **Priest of the Most High God**
- **Name means King of Righteousness**
- **Genesis 14 & Psalm 110:4**
- **Pre-Incarnate Christ?**
- **Abraham gave him a tithe**
- **Gives a blessing to Abraham**
- **‘zedek’ - Jebusite dynastic name**
- **He was a ‘type’ of Christ.**
3 Comparisons in Hebrews 7

1. Melchizedek & Jesus (v1-3)

2. The Order of Melchizedek & the Order of Aaron (v4-10)

3. The Levitical Priesthood & the Priesthood of Jesus (v11-25)
Comparison #1 (v1-3)
Melchizedek & Jesus

6 similarities:

1. Priest-King
2. Priesthood of Blessing
3. Superiority (tithes)
4. Independent Priesthood
5. Timeless (no beginning or end)
6. Ministered to all not just a nation
Melchizedek?

JESUS is BETTER!
Comparison #2 (v4-10)
Order of Melchizedek & Order of Aaron

4 Superiorities:
1. Melchizedek accepted tithes;
2. Melchizedek blessed Abraham - the lesser is blessed by the greater;
3. Aaron Priesthood administered by dying men;
4. Tribe of Levi paid tithes to Melchizedek through Abraham;
AARON CHRIST

The Earthly Levitical Priesthood

IMPERFECT

The Heavenly Melchizedek Priesthood

PERFECT

Hebrews 7:11
Jesus is greater than the priests.

Hebrews 7:1-28
Comparison #3 (v11-25)
Levitical Priesthood & Priesthood of Jesus

OLD Levitical System:
1. Changeable (v11-14)
2. Temporary (v15-19)

New Priesthood of JESUS:
1. Unchangeable (v20-22)
2. Uninterrupted (v23-25)
1. **Humanity needed a spotless priest**

2. **Humanity needed a sufficient sacrifice**
To prove Jesus is a spotless Priest (v26)

1. He is holy;
2. He is without evil;
3. He is pure/undefiled;
4. He is separated from sinners;
5. He is exalted above the heavens.
Hebrews 7:26

JESUS CHRIST
OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

Holy, Innocent, Unstained,
Separated from Sinners, &
Exalted Above the Heavens
Jesus as our sufficient sacrifice (v27)

1. He didn’t need to offer sacrifices for himself;
2. He didn’t become our priest at His death;
3. Became our High Priest at His Ascension (continuous priesthood);
4. Levitical Priesthood was insufficient - had to be replaced;
5. Sacrifice of Jesus was the once-for-all sufficient sacrifice.
Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Hebrews 7:25
SUMMARY - Hebrews 7

1. **Jesus represents ALL.**
   Aaron represents nation of Israel;

2. **Aaron only Priest. Jesus King & Priest;**

3. **Aaron - sin & Judgment. Jesus - peace & righteousness;**

4. **Jesus didn’t inherit or pass on His priesthood. Aaron - passed on to descendants;**
5. Aaron’s priesthood kept those in infancy only. Priesthood of Jesus brings to maturity.

6. Ministry of Jesus results in blessing. Aaron’s ministry weak & unprofitable;

7. Aaron - based on Law of Moses (dying men). Jesus’ priesthood based on covenant (priest forever);

"In this way Jesus has become the guarantee of a better promise."

Hebrews 7:22
Is He Your High Priest?

- For this is the kind of high priest we need: holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.  
  Hebrews 7:26

- For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.  
  Hebrews 4:15

- For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.  
  2 Corinthians 5:21
Homework for next week

Read Hebrews 8 (& beyond)
Hebrews 8 – A New Covenant … in blood

Next Sunday
7 May 2017
Let’s Pray ...

Going on to Spiritual Maturity